



[22750/525]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

-----X
In re Application of: : Cheryl Ann JUSKA
: :
Rudolf GARTNER et al. : :
: :
For: TUFTED BACKING AND METHOD : Art Unit 1771
OF MANUFACTURING SAME : :
: :
Filed: February 12, 2002 : Confirmation No.: 7026
: :
Serial No.: 10/074,404 :
-----X

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Date: April 12, 2005

Signature: *S. Elizabeth Miller*
S. Elizabeth Miller

TRANSMITTAL FOR APPEAL BRIEF PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

S I R:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application is an Appeal Brief Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.37.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the 37 C.F.R. 41.20(b)(2) Appeal Brief fee of \$500.00 to the deposit account of Kenyon & Kenyon, deposit account number 11-0600. The Director is also authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment in connection with this paper to Deposit Account 11-0600. A duplicate of this paper is attached for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 12, 2005

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S. Elizabeth Miller
Richard M. Rosati (Reg. No. 31,792)
S. Elizabeth Miller

APPEAL BRIEF PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

S I R:

In the above-identified patent application ("the present application"), Appellants mailed a Notice of Appeal on February 14, 2005 from the Final Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on September 22, 2004. In the Final Office Action, claims 11 to 33 were finally rejected.

A "Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116" was filed on November 24, 2004 in response to the Final Office Action, and a first Advisory Action was mailed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 6, 2004.

This Appeal Brief is submitted in support of the appeal of the final rejection of claims 11 to 33. It is respectfully submitted that the final rejection of claims 11 to 33 should be reversed for the following reasons.

I. Real Party in Interest

The real party in interest in the present appeal is Carl Freudenberg KG of Weinheim in the Federal Republic of Germany. Carl Freudenberg KG is the assignee of the entire right, title and interest in the present application.

II. Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no other prior or pending appeals, interferences or judicial proceedings known by the undersigned, or believed by the undersigned to be known to Appellants or the assignee, Carl Freudenberg KG, "which may be related to, directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal."

III. Status of Claims

The claims on appeal in the present appeal are claims 11 to 33.

Claims 11 to 29 stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Appellants regard as the invention.

Claims 11 to 29 stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly containing subject matter not described in the Specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention.

Claims 11 to 33 stand finally rejected under U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in the Specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

IV. Status of Amendments

The proposed amendments to claims 30 and 31 as presented in the "Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116," were entered.

V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The present invention relates to a method of manufacturing a spunbonded nonwoven from thermoplastic polymer fibers or filaments (Specification p. 1, lines 2 to 4). The method includes the step of at least one of (i) bonding fibers or filaments having a titer of 6 to 15 dtex in a portion of the spunbonded nonwoven by needling, and (ii) bonding fibers

or filaments having a titer of 1 to 5 dtex in another portion of the spunbonded nonwoven by using one of water jets and a combination of water jets and needling (Specification p. 3, lines 23 to 30 and p. 4, lines 22 to 32). The method further includes the steps of stretching the bonded fibers or filaments by up to 30% in the longitudinal direction (Specification p. 3, lines 28 to 29) and then drying and thermosetting the bonded fibers or filaments (Specification p. 5, lines 21 to 22).

VI. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The grounds of rejection for review are:

- (i) Whether claims 11 to 29 comply with the definiteness requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.
- (ii) Whether claims 11 to 29 comply with the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.
- (iii) Whether claims 11 to 33 comply with the written description requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

VII. Arguments

A. Rejection of Claims 11 to 29 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 11 to 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Appellants regard as the invention. The Final Office Action alleges that it is unclear how the two fiber types are structurally related in the tufted backing. Appellants respectfully submit that the present claims fully satisfy the requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112 for the following reasons.

The second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 merely requires that the claims set out and circumscribe a particular subject matter with a reasonable degree of clarity and particularity. As provided in M.P.E.P. § 2173.02, the "focus during examination of claims for compliance with the requirement for definiteness of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is whether the claim meets the threshold requirement of clarity and precision." In this regard, the "essential inquiry pertaining to this requirement is whether the claims set out and circumscribe a particular subject matter with a reasonable degree of clarity and particularity." *Id.* (emphasis added). "Definiteness of claim language must be analyzed, not in a vacuum, but in light of[, *inter alia*, the] content of the particular application disclosure[and the] claim

interpretation that would be given by one possessing the ordinary level of skill in the pertinent art at the time the invention was made." *Id.* If the claims, when read in light of the Specification, reasonably apprise those skilled in the art both of the utilization and scope of the invention, and if the language is as precise as the subject matter permits, the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 demands no more. M.P.E.P. § 2173.05(a) (citing *Shatterproof Glass Corp. v. Libbey Owens Ford Co.*, 758 F.2d 613, 225 U.S.P.Q. 634 (Fed. Cir. 1985)).

Appellants respectfully submit that claim 11 reasonably clearly conveys to one skilled in the art that portions of a spunbonded nonwoven having fibers or filaments having a titer of 6 to 15 dtex are bonded by needling and that portions of the spunbonded nonwoven having a titer of 1 to 5 dtex are bonded by either water jets alone or using a combination of water jets and needling.

The Final Office Action alleges that it is unclear if the fibers are blended in a single layer, if separate layers contain fibers of each titer range, or if the different fibers are arranged in different adjacent sections of a single layer. Claim 11 claims a method for making a spunbonded nonwoven. The claim does not limit the resulting product, *i.e.*, the spunbonded nonwoven, to one having a specific arrangement with respect to the arrangement of the fibers. Rather, one skilled in the art would recognize that the spunbonded nonwoven may comprise, for example, layers with a blend of both larger and smaller fibers or layers with only large or small fibers so long as the limitations of the claim are met, namely, fibers or filaments having a titer of 6 to 15 dtex are bonded by needling and that fibers or filaments with a titer of 1 to 5 dtex are bonded by either water jets alone or using a combination of water jets and needling. Appellants respectfully submit that the prior art does not require that the claim be limited to a method of making a tufted backing having a specific arrangement with respect to the fibers. Further, one skilled in the art at the time of the invention would have understood that the tufted backing could be made with blended layers, *i.e.*, including a mix of larger and smaller fibers, and/or with layers having either the larger or the smaller fibers. Appellants are not claiming a specific tufted backing configuration. Rather, claim 11 is directed to a method for making a tufted backing, having any configuration, so long as the limitations of the claim are met.

Regarding claims 21 to 24, 26 and 27, the Final Office Action alleges that the phrase "and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction of [x] N/5 cm, but at least [y] N/gm²" is indefinite because of the use of different units. Appellants respectfully submit that use of different units for the modulus values is customary in the art. Therefore, Appellants respectfully submit that claims 21 to 24, 26 and 27 would have been reasonably clear to one

of ordinary skill in the art at the time of filing. See, for example, German Patent No. 19821848, disclosed to the Examiner in a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement received in the PTO on May 10, 2004, the Abstract of which states in relevant part that the "high strength light tufting support is obtained from synthetic fiber spun bonds, where the spun bonds are strengthened (hydroentangled) and have a specific strength of at least 4.3 N/cm, and an initial modulus at 5% elongation of at least 0.45 N/cm per g/m² of surface."

In light of the foregoing amendments and arguments, Appellants respectfully request reversal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection of claims 11 to 29.

**B. Rejection of Claims 11 to 29 Under
35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph**

Claims 11 to 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not described in the Specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention. In particular, the Examiner stated that the Specification "does not disclose how to make the invention as claimed (*i.e.*, bonding fibers of a *first titer in a portion* of a spunbonded nonwoven by needling and bonding fibers of a *second titer in a second portion* with water jets and/or needling)." Appellants respectfully submit that the present claims fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 for the following reasons.

Since the rejections under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 concern enablement, it is respectfully submitted that the standard for determining whether a patent application complies with the enablement requirement is that the specification describe how to make and use the invention -- which is defined by the claims. (*See* M.P.E.P. § 2164). The Supreme Court established the appropriate standard as being whether any experimentation for practicing the invention was undue or unreasonable. (*See* M.P.E.P. § 2164.01 (citing *Mineral Separation v. Hyde*, 242 U.S. 261, 270 (1916); *In re Wands*, 858 F.2d. 731, 737, 8 U.S.P.Q.2d 1400, 1404 (Fed Cir. 1988))). Thus, the enablement test is "whether one reasonably skilled in the art could make or use the invention from the disclosures in the patent coupled with information known in the art without undue experimentation." (*See id.* (citing *United States v. Teletronics, Inc.*, 857 F.2d 778, 785, 8 U.S.P.Q.2d 1217, 1223 (Fed. Cir. 1988))).

The Federal Circuit has made clear that there are many factors to be considered in determining whether a specification satisfies the enablement requirement and that these factors include but are not limited to the following: the breadth of the claims; the nature of the invention; the state of the prior art; the level of ordinary skill; the level of

predictability in the art; the amount of direction provided by the inventor; the existence of working examples; and the quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention based on the disclosure. (*See id.* (citing *In re Wands*, 858 F.2d at 737, 8 U.S.P.Q.2d at 1404 and 1407)). In this regard, the Federal Circuit has also stated that it is "improper to conclude that a disclosure is not enabling based on an analysis of only one of the above factors," and that the examiner's analysis must therefore "consider all the evidence related to each of these factors" so that any nonenablement conclusion "must be based on the evidence as a whole." (*See* M.P.E.P. § 2164.01). It is respectfully submitted that the Final Office Action has not addressed these factors.

Importantly, an examiner bears the initial burden of establishing why the "scope of protection provided by a claim is not adequately enabled by the disclosure." (*See id.* (citing *In re Wright*, 999 F.2d 1557, 1562, 27 U.S.P.Q.2d 1510, 1513 (Fed. Cir. 1993))). Accordingly, a specification that teaches the manner and process of making and using an invention in terms that correspond in scope to those used in describing and defining the claimed subject matter complies with the enablement requirement. (*See id.*).

It is believed that the present assertions of the Final Office Action do not meaningfully address -- as they must under the law -- whether the present application enables a person having ordinary skill in the art to practice the claimed subject matter of the claims without undue experimentation -- which it plainly does. In short, it is believed that the Final Office Action's arguments and assertions do not really address the issue of whether one having ordinary skill would have to *unduly experiment* to practice the claimed subject matter of the rejected claims -- a proposition for which the Office bears the burden of proving a *prima facie* case as to the rejected claims.

In this regard, to properly establish enablement or non-enablement, the Office must make use of proper evidence, sound scientific reasoning and the established law. In the case of *Ex Parte Reese*, 40 U.S.P.Q.2d 1221 (Bd. Pat. App. & Int. 1996), a patent examiner rejected (under the first paragraph of section 112) application claims because they were based on an assertedly non-enabling disclosure, and was promptly reversed because the rejection was based only on the examiner's subjective belief that the specification was not enabling as to the claims. In particular, it is respectfully submitted that the subjective assertions of the Final Office Action are simply not supported by any real "evidence or sound scientific reasoning" -- which the law requires and which makes plain that the Office (and not an applicant) bears the burden of persuasion on an enablement rejection.

More particularly, the examiner in *Ex Parte Reese* was reversed because the rejection had only been based on a conclusory statement that the specification did not contain a sufficiently explicit disclosure to enable a person to practice the claimed invention without exercising undue experimentation -- which the Board found to be merely a conclusory statement that only reflected the subjective and unsupported beliefs of a particular examiner and that was not supported by any proper evidence, facts or scientific reasoning. (*See id.*). Moreover, the Board made clear that it is "incumbent upon the Patent Office . . . to back up assertions of its own with acceptable evidence," and also made clear that "[where an] examiner's 'Response to Argument' is not supported by evidence, facts or sound scientific reasoning, [then an] examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of lack of enablement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph." (*See id.* at 1222 & 1223; italics in original).

In the present case, it is respectfully submitted that the Final Office Action has not satisfied the foregoing for establishing that undue experimentation would be required. The Final Office Action alleges that the specification "does not explain how the two different fibers types are structurally related in the nonwoven." The Final Office Action further alleges that the Specification "does not disclose two portions and how said portions are structurally related in the spunbond nonwoven." Based on the foregoing the Examiner concludes that the claims are not enable because one skilled in the art would allegedly not be able to make the invention as claimed without undue experimentation.

Appellants respectfully disagree and submit that one skilled in the art would not have to unduly experiment to practice the present invention, as recited in claim 11. It is respectfully submitted that one skilled in the art would have recognized that a tufted backing may take on many configurations, *e.g.*, including blended layers including both large and small fibers mixed and/or layers including only large or small fibers, etc., depending on the particular use of the tufted backing. Therefore, one skilled in the art need not unduly experiment to make the invention as claimed. One need only choose a particular configuration for a tufted backing, consistent with the design requirements of the particular use and familiar to one skilled in the art, and follow the steps of claim 11. Claim 11 recites the steps of bonding fibers using needling and/or water jets as well as the steps of stretching, drying and thermosetting the bonded fibers. Appellants respectfully submit that these processes are familiar to one skilled in the art, and therefore, one skilled in the art would not have to unduly experiment to make a tufted backing utilizing such processes. As indicated above, the method of claim 11 is not limited to a specific configuration of tufted backing

rather the method applies to all tufted backings having fibers in the range of 1 to 5 dtex and fibers in the range of 6 to 15 dtex, so long as the limitations of the claim are met.

The Final Office Action asserts that the working example does not employ fibers of two titer ranges and the abstract only mentions one range and relies on such to support its lack of enablement argument. Appellants respectfully submit that the fact that working example and/or abstract do not discuss two titer ranges is of absolutely no consequence. Original claim 11 as well as, for example, the Specification at p.3, lines 23 to 30, discuss a tufted backing including fibers of two titer ranges.

In light of all the foregoing, Appellants respectfully request reversal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection of claims 11 to 29.

C. **Rejection of Claims 11 to 33 Under
35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph**

Claims 11 to 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Final Office Action alleges that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the Specification in such as way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Appellants respectfully submit that the present claims fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 for the following reasons.

As an initial matter, the Office bears the initial burden of presenting "evidence or reasons why persons skilled in the art would not recognize in an applicant's disclosure a description of the invention defined by the claims." (*See* M.P.E.P. § 2163.04 (citing *In re Wertheim* 541 F.2d 257, 262, 265, 191 U.S.P.Q. 90, 96, 98 (C.C.P.A. 1976))) (emphasis added). The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure also provides that if an examiner rejects a claim based on the lack of a written description, the examiner should "identify the claim limitation not described" and provide "reasons why persons skilled in the art would not recognize the description of this limitation in the disclosure of the application." (*See id.*). However, the written description requirement is not an *in haec verba* requirement. That is, "the specification 'need not describe the claimed subject matter in exactly the same terms as used in the claims; it must simply indicate to persons skilled in the art that as of the [filing] date the applicant had invented what is now claimed.'" *All Dental Prodx LLC v. Advantage Dental Products Inc.*, 64 U.S.P.Q.2d 1945, 1948 (Fed. Cir. 2002) (quoting *Eiselstein v. Frank*, 52 F.3d 1035, 1038, 34 U.S.P.Q.2d 1467, 1470 (Fed. Cir. 1995)). Moreover, a "failure of the specification to specifically mention a limitation that later appears in the claims is not a

fatal one when one skilled in the art would recognize upon reading the specification that the new language reflects what the specification shows has been invented." *All Dental Prodx*, 64 U.S.P.Q.2d at 1948 (citing *Eiselstein*, 52 F.3d at 1039, 34 U.S.P.Q.2d at 1470). An applicant can show "possession of the claimed invention by describing the claimed invention with all of its limitations using such descriptive means as words, structures, figures, diagrams, and formulas that fully set forth the claimed invention." M.P.E.P. § 2163 (citing *Lockwood v. American Airlines, Inc.*, 107 F.3d 1565, 1572, 41 U.S.P.Q.2d 1961, 1966 (Fed. Cir. 1997)).

The Final Office Action alleges that Specification, as originally filed, does not provide support for the claim recitation "of at least one" in line 3 of claim 11. Appellants respectfully disagree for the following reasons.

As admitted by the Final Office Action, the working example discloses a tufted backing including fibers in the range of 1 to 5 dtex, *i.e.*, 4.3 dtex. See Final Office Action at par. 7 and the Specification, for example, at p. 4, lines 22 to 32. Therefore, there is support for a tufted backing having fibers in the range of 1 to 5 dtex. See also, for example, p. 3, lines 26 to 27. Appellants respectfully further submit that original claim 11, as well as the Specification, provide support for a tufted backing having both filaments in the range of 1 to 5 dtex as well as filaments in the range of 6 to 15 dtex. See for example, at p. 3, lines 23 to 30, which states:

The method according to the invention for manufacturing a tufted backing of thermoplastic polymer fibers or filaments processed into a spunbonded nonwoven is characterized in that the fibers or filaments having a titer of 6 to 15 dtex are bonded by needling and the fibers or filaments having a titer of 1 to 5 dtex are bonded by using water jets or by a combination of these methods, and before drying and thermosetting, they are stretched by up to 30% in the longitudinal direction, the mobility of the fibers optionally being improved by the addition of oil or some other finish.

Appellants respectfully submit that the above reference discloses the use of two range of fiber sizes in a tufted backing, fibers from the range of 1 to 5 dtex as well as fibers in the range of 6 to 15 dtex. Therefore, the application, as originally filed, provides support for both a tufted backing having fibers only in the range of 1 to 5 dtex as well as a tufted backing having fibers in both a first range of 1 to 5 dtex and in a second range of 6 to 15 dtex. The above reference, which formed part of the application as originally filed, also provides support for the specific type of bonding used for each fiber size range. Therefore, it would have been clear to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors at the time filing had

possession of the invention as claimed, namely, "at least one of bonding fibers or filaments having a titer of 6 to 15 dtex . . . by needling, and bonding fibers or filaments having a titer of 1 to 5 dtex. . . by using one of water jets and a combination of water jets and needling."

The Final Office Action further alleges that the Specification does not provide support for the claimed "portions" of the spunbond nonwoven having different titers. As detailed above, the Specification discloses a tufted backing having fibers from two different range sizes, 1 to 5 dtex and 6 to 15 dtex. See, for example, the Specification at p.3 lines 25 to 7 (emphasis added), which states that "fibers or filaments having a titer of 6 to 15 dtex are bonded by needling and the fibers or filaments having at titer of 1 to 5 dtex are bonded by using . . ." The Specification also teaches bonding the fibers in the different ranges differently, *e.g.*, 1 to 5 dtex using water jets and 6 to 15 dtex using either water jets and a combination of water jets and needling. As one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize, using a different bonding process for the different fiber size ranges, as per the claim, necessarily results in a tufted backing having different portions. Consider, for example, the situation where water jets are used for the fibers in the 1 to 5 dtex range and the combination of water jets and needling is used for fibers in the 6 to 15 dtex range. Appellants respectfully submit that one skilled in the relevant art, even without use of the word "portion" in the Specification, would recognize that this method produces a tufted backing having different portions, one portion produced by water jets alone and the other portion produced by a combination of water jets and needling. Therefore, addition of the language "portion" and "another portion" does not constitute new matter. As indicated above, "the specification 'need not describe the claimed subject matter in exactly the same terms as used in the claims; it must simply indicate to persons skilled in the art that as of the [filing] date the applicant had invented what is now claimed.'" *All Dental Prodx LLC*, 64 U.S.P.Q.2d at 1948. Accordingly, Appellants respectfully submit that claims 11 to 33 fully comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and reversal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

VIII. Claims Appendix

An appendix containing a copy of the claims involved in the present appeal is attached hereto.

IX. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of claims 11 to 33 be reversed and that these claims be allowed as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 12, 2005

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KENYON & KENYON

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KENYON & KENYON

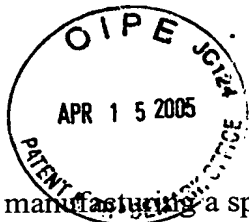
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Claims Appendix

11. A method of manufacturing a spunbonded nonwoven from thermoplastic polymer fibers or filaments, comprising the steps of (i) at least one of bonding fibers or filaments having a titer of 6 to 15 dtex in a portion of the spunbonded nonwoven by needling, and bonding fibers or filaments having a titer of 1 to 5 dtex in another portion of the spunbonded nonwoven by using one of water jets and a combination of water jets and needling, (ii) stretching the bonded fibers or filaments by up to 30% in the longitudinal direction, and then (iii) drying and thermosetting.

12. The method according to Claim 11, wherein a finishing agent is added to the fibers or filaments to improve mobility.

13. The method according to Claim 11, wherein the stretching is performed one of between individual needling stages and after conclusion of the needling operation.

14. The method according to Claim 11, wherein after thermosetting, an additional treatment is performed with a pair of heated rollers.

15. The method according to Claim 13, wherein after thermosetting, an additional treatment is performed with a pair of heated rollers.

16. The method according to Claim 14, wherein surfaces of the rollers have an irregular structure having a surface roughness of 40 to 100 μm .

17. The method according to Claim 15, wherein surfaces of the rollers have an irregular structure having a surface roughness of 40 to 100 μm .

18. The method according to Claim 14, wherein at least one of the rollers has an embossing, the embossing points covering a pressure area of 18% to 25% and forming one of diamond, linear and hexagonal shapes.

19. The method according to Claim 15, wherein at least one of the rollers has an embossing, the embossing points covering a pressure area of 18% to 25% and forming one of diamond, linear and hexagonal shapes.

20. The method according to Claim 16, wherein at least one of the rollers has an embossing, the embossing points covering a pressure area of 18% to 25% and forming one of diamond, linear and hexagonal shapes.

21. The method according to Claim 12, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven has: a mass per unit area of 70 to 110 g/m^2 , a density of 0.18 to 0.28 g/cm^3 and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction $> 60 \text{ N/5 cm}$, but at least 0.6 Nm^2/g .

22. The method according to Claim 21, wherein the fibers or filaments have a titer of 3 to 12 dtex, and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction of 70 to 100 N/5 cm, but at least 0.7 to 1.0 Nm²/g.

23. The method according to Claim 11, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polyethylene terephthalate and has: a mass per unit area of 70 to 110 g/m², a density of 0.18 to 0.28 g/cm³ and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction >60 N/5 cm, but at least 0.6 Nm²/g.

24. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the fibers or filaments have a titer of 3 to 12 dtex, and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction of 70 to 100 N/5 cm, but at least 0.7 to 1.0 Nm²/g.

25. The method according to Claim 21, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polyethylene terephthalate.

26. The method according to Claim 11, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polypropylene and has: a mass per unit area of 70 to 110 g/m², a density of 0.18 to 0.28 g/cm³ and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction > 60 N/5 cm, but at least 0.6 Nm²/g.

27. The method according to Claim 26, wherein the fibers or filaments have a titer of 3 to 12 dtex, and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction of 70 to 100 N/5 cm, but at least 0.7 to 1.0 Nm²/g.

28. The method according to Claim 21, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polypropylene.

29. The method according to Claim 12, wherein the finishing agent is oil.

30. The method according to Claim 11, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven has a three-dimensional structure and a mass per unit area of 70 to 110 g/m², a density of 0.18 to 0.28 g/cm³ and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction >60 N/5 cm, but at least 0.6 Nm²/g.

31. The method according to Claim 30, wherein the fibers or filaments have a titer of 3 to 12 dtex, and a 5% modulus value in the machine direction of 70 to 100 N/5 cm, but at least 0.7 to 1.0 Nm²/g.

32. The method according to Claim 30, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polyethylene terephthalate.

33. The method according to Claim 30, wherein the spunbonded nonwoven is made only of polypropylene.